St. Andrew's Church, Madras

Presidency Senior Chaplain.—Rev. John Heron, M.A., B.D. (on leave).
Offg. Presidency Senior Chaplain and Chaplain of St. Andrew's Church.—Rev. D. H. Gillan, M.A., B.D., Hotel Spencer.
Kirk Session.—The Chaplain, J. R. Atkinson, Esq., W. A. Beardsell, Esq., Dr. J. R. Henderson, W. Hutton, Esq., W. Lamb, Esq., A. C. Puddephatt, Esq., R. W. Ross, Esq., Capt. A. J. H. Russell, Col. R. Robertson, J. F. Simpson, Esq., W. A. Turner, Esq., and C. A. Innes, Esq., I.C.S.
Organist and Choirmaster—A. W. Jones, Esq., 1/144 Mount Road.
Free School Headmistress—Mrs. Pritchard, St. Andrew's Free School.
Dorcas Society Secretary—Mrs. J. R. Atkinson, Goodwood, Kilpauk.
Woman's Guild Secretary—Mrs. Gillan, Hotel Spencer (Acting).
Woman's Guild Treasurer—Mrs. H. E. Chandler, Sunnyside, Royapettah.
Sunday School Superintendent—H. P. Ashworth, Esq., Kalajagah, Chetput.
School Visitation Secretary—Mrs. C. A. Innes, The Hermitage, Mylapore.
Honorary Auditor—H. P. Ashworth, Esq., Chetput.
Church Officer—Mr. H. Boys, Kirk Villa, Egmore.

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Church Notes

Communion.—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed at the close of Evening Service, on 6th January, the first Sunday of the quarter. Sixty-two were present. The Communion will be celebrated after Morning Service, on 10th February.

Communion Roll.—This has now been actually begun, and the members of the congregation who were present on 6th January, have had their attendance recorded. It will help towards the quick completion of the Roll if Church members not resident in Madras or seldom present at Communion will send in their names; and besides keeping the Roll accurate it will help in a variety of ways especially in the way of visiting if Communicants will fill in both names and addresses on their cards.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.—The Carol Service on Christmas Eve and the service on Christmas morning were both well attended. It is difficult to count exactly the numbers at such services without a more elaborate system than we have ever had, but it is estimated that the congregation at each service was at least 250, and the collections—given as usual to the Poor Fund—and Carol Leaflets required tend to confirm this estimate. Certainly the Church was full enough at both services to help the feeling of fellowship, which an empty Church tends to dissipate. The Church is always beautifully decorated as we know, but various friends have said they never saw it more beautiful than this Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Boys are to be congratulated on the artistic result of their labour.

Watch Night Service.—This began at 11-15 P.M. on the last night of the year, and closed just after midnight. Judging by the large attendance this service meets a real need, and it seems to be generally agreed that the change from the "ringing in" of the New Year to the present arrangement was a good one.

Treats.—Coffee and buns were given as usual to the pensioners and a special breakfast to the children of the Free School on Christmas morning. Christmas gifts to the pensioners, children, and church servants were distributed after service. The Pensioners' Dinner was served in the school-room on January 2nd. During dinner Mr. Boys' gramophone did noble service and after dinner Mrs. Roskilly and Miss Maggie Boys sang to the guests. Mrs. Moffat's dog "Jock," whose cleverness is becoming widely known, also contributed his share to the entertainment. The school hall was beautifully decorated with flags and flowers and everything was done that could contribute to the comfort and happiness of the old people. The presents this year were 4-Anna pieces, the extraction of which from a bran pie afforded some amusement to the guests.

A full and delightful account of the Children's Treat, on January 8th, from the pen of Mr. Ashworth, is given elsewhere. We wish to add that the thanks of all are due to Mr. Ashworth himself, to Mr. R. W. Theobald, and to Mr. and Mrs. Boys for their share in the success of the splendid entertainment. Before passing from the subject of treats, we should like to thank the friends who kindly sent gifts of fruits, cakes and sweets and thus added to the enjoyment of the entertainments. These donors were:—Her Excellency The Lady Pentland, Mrs. Puddephatt, Mrs. J. G. Conran, Mr. H. P. Ashworth, Mr. W. A. Beardsell, Mr. and Mrs. P. Dewar.

Free School.—The school opened on 14th January, with 49 children on the roll and an actual attendance on the opening day of 45. Since then seven new pupils have been enrolled, and all are busily preparing for the Inspector's visit in March. The visits of Mrs. Innes to school are much appreciated.

Services of Intercession.—In common with our countrymen—or should we say our Empire men?—all over the world, we met on the first Sunday of the year, in response to the King-Emperor's message, for prayer in these days of war. We were fortunate in having Mr. Meston to address us and lead us in prayer; and none of those who were present will readily forget the spirit either of his address or of his prayers.

Return of Church Members.—One of the pleasures of the Watch Night Service was to meet Mr. J. F. Simpson at the close of it. Mr. Simpson reached Madras on the last day of the year. Mr. W. A. Turner returned towards the close of January. We are heartily glad to have both of them back amongst us, and the only regret connected with their return is that in the circumstances Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Turner were naturally unable to accompany them. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ross were in Madras for a few days during the Christmas holidays, and were amongst the worshippers at the Evening Service of Intercession.

The Annual Sunday School Treat.—This annual event was held on Tuesday, January 8th. Following a new departure the whole of the proceedings took place outside in the compound, and this was a distinct improvement on a close and over-crowded schoolroom, as in past years.

As usual the Merry-go-rounds attracted much attention and it was throughout the afternoon a case of "House full" so far as they were concerned.

The Sports—which in the past have been a considerable attraction to the more athletic members of the School—on this occasion fell a long way below normal, the entries being very meagre. We appear to have lost most of the "Sporting Members" of our Community this year. Are the boys and girls growing less energetic?

At 5-20, the children, upwards of 120, sat down to a good Tea and speedily cleared the board.

Soon after 6, a move was made from the Tea Tables to the site in the compound where the "Main attraction" of the evening was to come off. Here the smaller children sat on carpets in front of a specially constructed platform, while the bigger children and the guests occupied chairs at the back and sides. After a Hymn and a Prayer, the Chaplain made a few remarks, and then Mrs. Black kindly distributed the special prizes to those who had earned them. At the end of this distribution she was presented with a boquet by Miss Maggie Boys.

The Superintendent next read his brief report for 1917 and then all was made close for the "Main attraction." The audience saw before them two sentry boxes against a wall. Through one of these boxes came a little band of Boy Scouts, and a small Nurse in red cross uniform. They sang very nicely those rather fine lines of Conan Doyle's "Who carries the gun?" Through being in the open their voices suffered somewhat. Soon after this a motor came along and on being challenged by the Sentry, the occupant said that he was "Father Christmas" back once more. He climbed on to the platform and gave the children his message, and after that distributed the prizes. On completing this task he bade the children farewell and motored away. With the singing of the National Anthem the proceedings terminated at 6-45, after a pleasant three hours for the children.

St. Andrew's Sunday School Report, 1917.—The School was opened on thirty Sundays during the year, the mean average attendance of children being sixty-three per Sunday, which is a lower ratio than usual. During

the first part of the year the Staff of Teachers was satisfactory, but with the departure of Miss Thompson from Madras, and the resignation of the Miss Falconers, who have given excellent service in the school for some years, the latter part of the year has thrown a considerable strain on the remaining Teachers. These deserve the highest credit for having taken combined classes to enable the work to be carried on. This brief report would be incomplete if I did not record the names of those teachers who helped to carry on during this period, *i.e.*, Mrs. Boys, Miss Howell, Miss Chatterton and Mr. V. Conran, who have given their best services to the school.

Woman's Guild.—There have been the usual two meetings during the month. At the first H. E. Lady Pentland and the Hon'ble Peggy Sinclair paid the Guild a surprise visit. There was unfortunately a small attendance as it was the first meeting for the year and some of the members of the Guild were still on holiday. Lady Pentland stayed some time and took part in the work. It was a great pleasure to see Her Excellency, and we hope she will visit us again before she leaves for the Hills.

At the second meeting Mrs. Theobald kindly gave an address which was listened to with deep interest. The day was pouring wet and the meeting was therefore smaller than it would have been otherwise, but notwithstanding twelve ladies were present. We are deeply indebted to Mrs. Theobald for her kind interest and help and give to her our warm thanks.

Mrs. Moffat will speak at the next meeting which will be held on the first Thursday of the month, the 7th February. We hope as many members as possible will be present, and if other ladies care to come, whether they belong to the Guild or not they will be most welcome.

A meeting of Committee will be held at the close of the meeting.

We have now been able to close the accounts in connection with the Sale of Work in aid of the Hospital Ship "Madras", Herewith we give a statement which will we know be read with much interest. Mr. Annan has made out the statement for us and has acted as Honorary Treasurer for the Sale. We are all deeply grateful to him for his most kind help.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MADRAS".

SALE OF WORK

The following is the result of the Sale showing the nett receipts of various Stalls, etc.—

				Rs.	A.	
Jams and Pickles				320	3	3
Plain and Fancy				378	0	0
One-Rupee Stall				500	0	0
Curios, Knick-nacks and Books ...				154	0	0
Four and Eight-Annas Stall ...				66	1	0
Tea and Coffee in Bulk, etc. ...				631	12	0
Sweets				80	0	0
Cigars and Cigarettes				166	8	0
Choir Stall				351	0	0
Children's Horticultural Stall ...				61	5	0
Miscellaneous Stall				484	5	0
Children's Parcel Post				66	10	0
Tea Room				183	9	0
Shooting Gallery and Side Shows ...				65	13	0
Per Sheep Raffle				40	0	0
Rickshaw Raffle				287	0	0
Subsequent Sales				296	14	0
Total ...				4,133	0	3
Less Expenses, Material, Advertising, Band, Lighting, etc. ...				166	1	6
Nett Result of Sale of Work ...				3,966	14	9
Scottish Concert:—						
Total Drawings ...	1,140	15	0			
Less Expenses ...	81	11	0	1,059	4	0
Total ...				5,026	2	9
Amount collected by Mrs. Gillan ...				2,410	8	7
Grand Total Rs ...				7,436	11	4

A cheque for Rs. 7,436-11-4 was sent to the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras for the Hospital Ship "Madras" on 30th January.

Jumble Sale.—As we shall probably not be having a Concert this Spring, we shall have to try and get as much money as possible for our needs in other ways. We should like therefore to hold a Jumble Sale as soon as possible, the date is not yet fixed, but it will likely be early in February.

Will all friends therefore who would like to contribute, send things to the Church as soon as possible, addressed to the Secretary of the Guild who will acknowledge them, or to any of the Committee. It is hardly necessary to give a list of things acceptable for *anything* and everything usually finds a market. Clothing of all kinds however, women's and men's is usually most acceptable.

CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism

"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

January 20th, 1918—Evelyn Mary, daughter of Arthur and Mary Jane Scott.

CHURCH ACCOUNTS

I.—Monthly Statement of Kirk Session Fund Account for December, 1917

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT			DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT		
	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
By Government Grant	109	0	0	To Church Choir for Nov., 1917 ...	157	0	0
„ Seat Rents	79	0	0	„ „ Estabt. „ „ ...	185	8	0
„ Church Collections	956	7	0	„ Organ Blowers	6	0	0
„ Refunds	10	0	0	„ M. E. S. Co., Current for Nov..	12	0	0
„ Sale of Grass	10	0	0	„ M. P. House Printing Bill No. 511	24	0	0
„ Organ Practice	10	0	0	„ Communion Elements ...	3	8	0
				„ Charity Fund a/c Special Collections	168	2	11
				„ Miscellaneous	8	3	0
				Balance Credit this Account ...	610	1	1
Total ...	1,174	7	0	Total ...	1,174	7	0

II.—Monthly Statement of St. Andrew's Free School Account for December, 1917

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT			DISBURSEMENTS	AMOUNT		
	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
By Subscriptions	6	0	0	To Teachers and Establishment ...	195	0	0
„ Refund	10	0	0	„ Food	69	11	0
„ Cash	278	8	0	„ Miscellaneous, Kindergarten, etc.	3	13	0
				„ Prizes	20	0	0
				„ Tuning Piano and repairs to Museum Case	6	0	0
Total ...	294	8	0	Total ...	294	8	0

H. BOYS,
Church Clerk.

D. H. GILLAN,
Senior Chaplain.

After Note.—The Lace for the Moderator's Robes has more than once been made in our Industrial Mission School at Kilpauk, and a suggestion has been made that this year it should not only be made in Madras, but should also be gifted by Madras, where Dr. Ogilvie spent such useful and happy years. Will those who would like to join in this gift kindly communicate with the Chaplain? The total cost of the Lace is about Rs. 100, and we should like if possible, 100 gifts of not more than Re. 1. each.

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